औषधि पद्धति व होमियोपैथी विभाग भी औषधीय पौधों के विकास तथा खेती के लिए एक केन्द्रीय योजना क्रियान्वित कर रहा है जिसके तहत आयुर्वेद, यूनानी, सिद्ध तथा होमियोपैथी में उपयोग में लाये जाने वाले अभिज्ञात औषधीय पौधों की खेती के लिए जड़ी-बूटियों के बगीचों की स्थापना तथा विस्तार के लिए सहायता दी जा रही है। इस योजना के अंतर्गत 5 एकड़ क्षेत्र को शामिल करने के लिए 8.30 लाख रुपये तक का अनावर्ती अनुदान दिया जाता है। यह योजना 1997-98 के दौरान जारी रखी गई तथा इसे 1998-99 में भी चलाया जा रहा है।

(ग) से (ङ) इन योजनाओं के अंतर्गत भारतीय औषधि पद्धति तथा होमियोपैथी के विभिन्न कालेजों सहित राज्य कृषि विश्वविद्यालयों, सरकारी तथा अर्ध-सरकारी संगठनों के लिए सहायता उपलब्ध है।

कृषि आधारित उद्योग के लिए राष्ट्रव्यापी योजना

1742. **श्रीमती सरोज दुबे:** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार कृषि आधारित उद्योग की स्थापना के लिए कोई राष्ट्रव्यापी योजना लागू करने जा रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सोम पाल): (क) से (ग) राष्ट्रीय कृषि नीति का मसौदा जो प्रारूपण के अंतिम चरणों में है, उसमें खाद्य एंव कृषि प्रसंस्करण उद्योग की तेजी से विकास की परिकल्पना की गई है ताकि घरेलू और निर्यात बाजार हेतु मूल्य-वर्धित कृषि उत्पादों के उत्पादन के लिए महत्वपूर्ण आधार बनाया जा सके।

Effect of Shortage of Fertilizers of Wheat Crop

1743. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:
SHRI K.M. SAIFULLAH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether shortage of DAP fertilizer in the distribution network has been reported;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the projected requirement for 1998-99 and actual availability till day; and

(c) the measures taken to ensure that wheat crop is not affected/damaged due to shortage or breakdown in supplies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP) is a decontrolled fertilizer and Government of India does not control its distribution and movement. Against a projected requirement of 61.84 LMT of DAP during 1998-99, the actual availability till the middle of February, 1999 has been 64.44 LMT. Although the overall availability of this fertilizer was more than the projected requirement, localised shortages were reported from some North Indian States during October-November, 1998, mainly due to bunching of imports and sharp increase in the area of wheat cultivation.

(c) The measures taken to improve availability of DAP were priority berthing of DAP vessels at ports, speedy evacuation by rail from plants and ports, and priority import of 55,000 tonnes of DAP.

Decline in Crop Productivity

1744. SHRI SANTAN BISI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that crop productivity in some States are going down;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to improve production in those States; and

(c) whether any special drive is being taken for the Sate of Orissa in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) The crop productivity is generally maintaining an increasing trend in the country, though there are fluctuations over crops/States due to diverse agro-climatic conditions.

(b) In order to increase production and productivity of various crops, the Government is implementing crop

specific centrally sponsored/central sector schemes under which incentives are provided to farmers for use of quality seeds and location specific high yielding/ hybrid varieties, application of integrated pest management, propagation of scientific water management including micro irrigation, improved farm implements etc. Besides, field demonstrations on farmers' holdings including training of farmers and farm labourers are organised for effective transfer of technology. Further, under the national agenda for governance, the Government has given fresh thrust to double the food production in next ten years through adoption of regionally differentiated growth strategies, creation of farming infrastructure and more efficient use of resources.

(c) The crop specific schemes are being implemented in Orissa also. Besides, Soil and Water Conservation (SWC), Rainfed Farming System (RFS) and Horticulture Development Schemes are being implemented in the State.

Bilateral talks with Bangladesh

1745. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any bilateral talks with Bangladesh were held in the recent past to thrash out the issues of infiltration, exchange of enclaves and cross border smuggling;

(b) if so, the details thereof and outcome thereto; and

(c) what other steps Government propose to take to curb infiltration and smuggling on Indo-Bangla borders?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Director General level talks between Border Security Force and Bangladesh Rifles were held in Dhaka on 25—28 October, 1998 and Home Secretary level talks were held in Dhaka on 20—22 November, 1998. The exchange of enclaves is directly linked to ratification of the 1974 Land boundary Agreement, which will follow completion of the demarcation of the boundary between India and Bangladesh for which work is going on. Both sides have agreed to adhere to specific procedures for repatriation of illegal immigrants. The Government of Bangladesh have conveyed the assuraance that measures will be taken to strengthen security at the border to prevent illegal border crossing. Both sides also agreed to intensify cooperation to curb trans-border crimes including smuggling. Government have already undertaken the fencing of the border with Bangladesh in order to curb infiltration and smuggling.

Haj Advisory Committee

1746. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) why Government have not constituted the Haj Advisory Committee at the Central Government level;

(b) whether Government will consider constituting Haj Advisory Committee to advise the Government on Haj matters, consisting of Members of Parliament, Social workers, community leaders etc.;

(c) when is the bill to replace the present Haj Act likely to introduced in the Parliament;

(d) what are the reasons for the delay in introducing the bill inspite of several assurances given to Parliament; and

(e) whether Government are going back on its assurances?

THE MINISTER OF STATER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE): (a) and (b) Government of India have decided in principle to revive the Central Haj Advisory Board (CHAB), which had been in continuous existence until 1998, to advise Government on various matters pertaining to Haj;

(c) to (e) Government remains convinced of the need for a new Haj Act to